NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER:

THE TREASURY REPORT.

Messrs. Gales & SEATON : The disingenuou nd unfounded statements which have recently ap-eared in the Union, in its remarks upon the late nnual Treasury Report, and the puerile objections which it has put forth against it, I thought carried with them their own refutation, and therefore reuired no answer, as it did not seem possible that they could make any serious impression upon the minds of intelligent readers. As, however, extracts have been published from them elsewhere. by those who are willing to sing the same tune, allow one of your subscribers to make a short examination of the comments which the Union has offered upon the above able and correct document.

The writer in the Union commences his assaul on the Report by saying that it indicates a profuse expenditure, and that Mr. Corwin attempts to cover up this extravagance by magnifying the expenses which have been entailed by the Mexican war. The charge of extravagance, even admitting it were well founded, comes with a very ill grace from the political opponents of the present Administration, and is particularly amusing in the case before us, when the report explains, in such simple and clear language, the causes to which these heavy extra expenditures are to be attributed. The writhings and contortions which the report has produced i certain quarters, and which are so evidently exhibited through the columns of the Union, are probably the best evidence of the truth of its statements and of their telling effect.

The Union commences its statements by giving Mr. WALKER's estimates of receipts and expenditures for the year ending 30th June, 1849, and says that the appropriations were "greater than what he It does not tell us, however, that they are more than were required for the public service, and it is by no means the first time that Mr. Wal-KER has under-estimated the expenditures. In his annual estimates for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1848, during the Mexican war, every one exclaimed at the comparative smallness of the amount, and the impossibility of conducting the war with such limited means, and some were so malicious as to intimate that it was done with design, as he was afraid it would startle the people should he place in glaring array at one time the full amount which would be required for the prose- dynasties, they were \$25,745,776 28; showing an cution of the war, and that he preferred coming again to Congress and requesting the passage of that period of twelve years. It is well known what in the British Parliament is called "a deficiency bill," Such a bill, or rather bills, were priating the neat little additional sum of only about sixteen millions to cover the short estimates laid administration of public affairs," under the Demoactually passed before Congress adjourned, appropriating the neat little additional sum of only about before it at the commencement of the session! Mr. Corwin, however, has not thought proper to follow any example of this kind, but informs Congress at once of the whole amount which the service of the country will require. In so doing he commits the heinous sin of explaining, by a very simple process, how much of the amount would have been required for the usual and ordinary wants of the nation, as they existed previous to the incoming of Mr. Polk's administration, and how much these wants have been increased and the payment of them rendered unavoidable by the acts of that Administration whilst in power. "The head and front of his offence has this intent, no more.'

Let us now look a little into this charge of extravagance against the present Administration before we take up the other points of attack.

The expenditures for the year ending 80th June. 1849, all of which were based upon Mr. Walker's own arrangements, and eight months of the year under his actual management, were (exclusive of treasury notes funded) \$46,798,667.82; and in his last annual report he estimates the expenditures for the ensuing year, ending 30th June, 1850, at \$33.213,152.73. Both of these were years of peace, but the former were his own expenditures, we dare say, amuse such of our readers as are not and the latter were those he estimated for the gov-

But even the above does not show the full difference: for, previous to 1st July, 1849, all the exdrawbacks, duties returned, &c., were first deductsury; whereas now the gross receipts are paid in, and all the above items figure as a portion of the annual expenditure. These items, as stated in land sales, &c., amount to \$3,654.975.04; which, ral office? These things ought not so to be. adord to the preceding amount, would make Mr. Walker's expenditure for the last year of his administration of the finances \$50,453,642.86.

made by Mr. Walker for the expenditure of the year ending 30th June, 1850, there was for interest \$3,799,102 18 Instalment of Mexicas indemnity 3,540,000 00 Ordinary expenses -Comparing this estimate with his own actual ex-Peditures for the preceding year, and deducting from the latter the above items for interest and Mex-an indemnity, there would remain \$43,114,-540.61 for "ordinary expenses" actually expended for the year ending 30th June, 1849, against \$25,874950.55, which Mr. Walker generously said was afficient for his Whig successor!

The Union then naively remarks: "Such were Mr. Walker's estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1849, and June 30, 1850; and they indi cate an economical administration, solicitous to reduce the public expenditures within the means of the Government, and leave a balance to be applied to the extinguishment of the public debt. Had the economical views of Mr. Polk's administration been adhered to, the balance of revenue over expenditure would already have provided the means of extin guishing a large per centage of the national debt."

It is decidedly rich to see the economical views (economical views!) of Mr. Polk's administration thus lauded, and Mr. Walker making an estimate nearly eighteen millions less than what he himself had found necessary, and had actually expended! Like a finger-post, he pointed to a road which he Lever travelled himself; and that, too, after his own acts and those of the Administration of which he was so prominent a member had rendered the road

entirely impracticable. The Union proceeds, and says:

"Mr. Corwin presents three statements of expenditure, exclusive of payments on account of trust-funds and public debt, expenses of collecting the revenue from customs, lands, &c. Those statements make the following exhibit: 1. Years ending June 30, 1843-4-5, av'ge \$21,277,901

2. " June 30, 1846-7-8, " 41,733,672 37 3. " June 30, '49-50-51, " 38,974,059 61 "The first period above embraces the three years immediately preceding the Mexican war; the second, the three years of the war; and the third, the three years subsequent to the war. These figures show that the party in power have not reduced the expenditures of the Government as much as three milions below the extraordinary expenditures required during the war. With this fact staring him in the face, and standing prominent on the official returns, Mr. Corwin will argue in vain to convince the people that the heavy expenditures now made were entailed upon the country by the war."

It is not necessary to stop here and dwell upon the want of fairness and candor on the part of a writer who can put forth such a statement, nor on the estimate he must form of the intelligence of his readers, when in the preceding column he acknowledges (which he certainly could not well deny)
that the interest on the war debt and the instalment of the Mexican indemnity, the two amounting to nearly seven millions of dollars, were extra items, and were fairly chargeable to the Mexican war; and, though they formed a portion of the above item of average annual expenditure of \$38,974,059.61, vet still makes the assertion that the war expenses have only been decreased three millions, when by his figures he shows the decrease is ten millions! But "mark how a plain tale shall put him down !" | Ball was withdrawn, and that of "not guilty" entered.

The expenditure (including the cost for collecting the revenue, paying bounties, &c.) in the last fiscal year of Democratic rule, ending 30th June, 1849, as has already been shown, was

\$50,453,642 82 And the expenditure under the first fiscal year of the Whig Administration, ending 30th June, 1850,

- 39.355,268 69

Making a difference of in favor of the latter—both years being years of peace, and both subject to the increased permanent expenses entailed by the Mexican war and the acquisition of new territory; though of the expendi-tures for the latter a much larger portion has neces-

sarily attached to the last year.

From this statement it is evident that the Whigs. so far from having reduced the peace expenditures only three millions below the "extraordinary expenditures required during the war," have actually reduced them more than eleven millions in the very first year of their rule below the PEACE expen ditures of their economical Democratic prede-

It is true, the Union contends that the year end ing 30th June, 1849, should be considered as a war year, though the treaty of peace was signed months before the year commenced, and the only item the Union advances of actual war expenditure attach ing to the year, is the removal of the troops from Mexico, an item probably covered by the sale of the immense wagon train, spare stores, and supplies which were disposed of in Mexico, and more than covered by the military contributions levied and collected there, (on which subject a word hereafter,) and none of which ever came into the United States treasury, or formed any portion of the war expenditure, as published in the official documents. But, even giving this item its full weight, two or three millions would certainly be an ample allow-ance for it, which would still leave an economy of eight or nine millions in favor of "the party in power," over their Democratic predecessors, between their respective peace expenditures in the only two fiscal years which have elapsed since the

termination of the war. One word more on the subject of "Whig extravagance." Mr. Corwin states in his report that the expenditures in 1828, the last year of Whig rule under Mr. Adams, were \$12,530,846 43; and in 1841, the last year of the Jackson and Van Buren annual average increase of \$943,923 56 during that period of twelve years. It is well known Mr. Adams was extravagance, and it was printhat the Jackson cipally under this "war-cry cratic rule, which followed the "Whig extravagance," is very plainly exhibited by the above figures. But again. In 1841 the Whigs once more came into power under General Harrison, and his administration was organized on Whig principles and under a Whig system. The former, it is true, were soon abandoned by Mr. Tyler, but the latter exerted its influence upon the finances during the whole of his term, and the consequence was, as shown by Mr. Corwin's report, an annual reduction, as compared with four preceding Democratic years, of \$3,481,158 95, or \$13,924,635 80 for the whole term of four years. Mr. Polk then sucseeded to the Chair of State, with Mr. Walker as his Treasury Secretary, and the result of the policy of the former, and the administration of the finance by the latter, needs no comment, as it is too plainly exhibited in the present enormous and unavoidable annual budget, which, as Mr. Corwin justly observes, must continue for "an indefinite period."

This communication has already extended to an unexpected length, and I must therefore defer further remarks to another occasion.

The following suggestion, bona fide, by one of the most violent of the ultra Southern prints, will,

FROM THE NEWBERRY (s. C.) SENTINEL.

Hon. R. BARNWELL RHETT was elected United States penses for collecting the revenue, paying bounties, Senator on the fourth ballet, receiving 97 votes. The contest for this office, together with the centest in the Charlesed, and the nett revenue only came into the Trea- ton Congressional election, we regarded as unwise under the existing state of things. The State is loudly proclaiming her desire and intention to secede from a Union in which her rights are disregarded, and her honor insulted. Is it, then-Mr. Conwin's late report, including the expenses on | can it be proper for her sons to enter into a scramble for Fede-

It is a subject of congratulation that in the Northern and Western States the Judges of the United Of the preceding estimate of \$33,213,152.73, States as well as the State Courts, who have spoker in their charges to the grand juries, have generally expressed their full determination to carry out the provisions of the Fugitive Slave law, and have taken care to denounce as criminal opposition to 25.874.050 55 that or any other law of the land. When the Judiciary is sound, a great point is gained. That great protector of our rights will stand us in good stead. It is a bulwark against the waves of fanaticism which we trust will always remain firm and uninjured .- Alex. Gazette.

> THE WHALE FAGUERY .- The New London Chronicle states that the whale ships of that city are returning with rich cargoes. All vessels which have made trips to the Northern Seas have been very successful, and have made not only profitable but short voyages.

FROM HAVANA.

A letter in the Journal of Commerce, dated at Havana on the 21st December, says:

On the 19th we had a fresh fleet of transports in from San tander, with about 1,200 troops and officers, so that already more than the promised number of 4,000 have arrived here, and a few more are yet to come, which may increase the number to 5,000. In physical strength, therefore-for the naval force here is also of magnitude—the Island is well prepared to resist the encroachments of external enemies, if upon such be placed the reliance of the Government; although a wise and impartial reformation in the administration of the laws will do more, as General Concha seems to be sware, for the preservation of the "integrity of the Island," than all the bayonets in Spain.

MATE ROBBER CONVICTED .- In the United States Die trict Court, at Springfield, Illinois, on the 18th ultimo-Charles Emery, alias Charles Baker, was arraigned on four indictments for robbing the mail, in February, April, May, and July last. The jury found a verdict of guilty on one indictment, the prisoner plead guilty to two others, and the District Attorney entered a nolle prosequi as to the fourth. Whereupon the prisoner was sentenced by the Court to two years' imprisonment in the penitentiary on each of the inlictments-making in all six years.

PROSECUTION OF THE CUEA INVADERS .- Judge McCales has refused to grant an imparlance in the case of Gen. LOPEZ and his associates, on the ground that it was too late to ask it after pleas in abatement had been filed. He further decided that the mode of selecting the Grand Jury pursued in that Court, has been the settled practice of the Federal Judiciary ever since the Federal Courts were extended to Louisiana, and it was not therefore a question which he would feel justified in holding up for consultation with a circuit judge. A continuance being denied, the argument of the pleas was fixed for a certain day, with a privilege to the accused to file other pleas in the mean time. The arrival of Gen. Gonzales, who had been delayed on his route, was announced, and on application the forfeiture of his appearance bond was set aside, and the smount reduced to two thousand dollars.

SENTIMENT OF THE LEADING METHODISTS.

We are glad to find the following calm and manly protest against the agitating propensities of some of the preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the Christian Advocate and Journal, the accredited organ of that denomination. It contains truths which no Christian, and especially no Christian Minister, can gainsay or disregard, and we have o doubt that it speaks the sentiments of the members of the Church generally.

PROM THE CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE OF DECEMBER 26. The signs of the times very naturally suggest the inquiry, What are the Providential indications with regard to the duties and responsibilities of the Christian Charch, and of indi-vidual Christians? Is it a time for hot baste in the discusion of questions in relation to which there is a difference of opinion among citizens and members of the Church, who are equally wise, and equally entitled to public confidence? Is a time for the violent agitation of such sectional questions as at present perplex the most keen-sighted of our statesmen? is it the best thing for the Church to participate in the agitating measures of those who assume the character of re-

The question is not whether what is proposed is either good or bad in itself, but whether it is practicable at the time, in the way and by the means proposed? We suppose it a truth that no same mind will attempt the accomplishment of what is evidently impossible. We may see many reforms which would be desirable, and would be worthy of our patronage if they were feasible, but, insuperable difficulties lying in the way, they come not within the range of Christian duties and bligations. To descant upon the glories of such reforms, nd to attempt to excite the minds of men in their favor, would be to labor in vain, and might be productive of positive evil. We must look at things as they are, and in our efforts to remedy existing evils must not be governed by mere theories and speculations. Every effort of this sort should have a practical basis. We should not only consider the adaptation of the means to the end, but should also take into consideration the circumstances which constitute the essential

We have laid down these principles as preliminary to the special matters upon which we shall now offer a few thoughts. Stavery and its dependencies are still destined to occupy a large space in the public mind. The aspect of these questions at present is such that it becomes a matter of doubt whether their activities in the mind. agitation, in the spirit and manner in which the discussion has hitherto been carried on, is safe or right. We should not now content ourselves with a decision merely upon the evil of slavery, and suppose that this decision settles the queseval of slavery, and suppose that this decision settles the ques-tion of measures. This would be acting with but partial views of the ground. The question now prepounded is, will the perpetual agitation of the subject at the North cure the evil? Will it probably hasten emancipation? Are there-not reasons for believing that it will retard the object which it is designed to secure? And, furthermore, is there no reason to fear that evils will grow out of the strife of words and the conflict of passions which necessarily attend the fiery discussions of this subject, which have hitherto marked its history, which will be fatal to the dearest interests of the Church and the country? Admitting that those who are de-termined to keep up the sgitation are all very honest, is it We speak with reference to our church, and especially our

press, and we are forced to the conclusion that the continued violent agitation of the subject, through the medium of the press, or by the action of ecclesiastical bodies, is highly inexpedient, not to say dangerous. It is not to be questioned that the country has been forced, by the exigencies of the question, to the very verge of a fearful vortex. The indications of a spirit of disunion have been too plain to be mistaken Let the system of agitation be pressed a step or two further, and the United States of America may be plunged further, and the United States of America may be plunged into the horrors of a civil war—a thing infinitely more injurious, even to the colored race, than slavery itself. By a certain class of minds all this will be regarded as a mere bugbear, only calculated to frighten the simple. With that class we shall be considered as an alarmist, and may be an object of heir ridicule and merriment. This is a matter # little moment to us; our object is to reach true and safe results, and those who entertain different views must bear with us in what they may esteem our folly. We are much mistaken if our they may esteem eur folly. We are much mistaken if our impressions are not in harmony with those of the reflecting portions of the community generally, and if the country at large are not convinced that the further agitation of this subject is imminently dangerous. We all most surely have the natural right to speak upon all subjects and the right to publish our views to the world—the liberty of thought, of speech, and of the press must not be infringed—but, with a wise and good man, it is an important matter to know when and how of the pressure to his sentiments and feelings. No one to give utterance to his sentiments and feelings. No one has a moral right to speak what would injure society, and throw the country into commotions which would peril the dearest interests of mankind and the hopes of the world.

We are very much deceived if we do not see strong symptems of alarm for the safety of the Union widely extended among the people. The union of these confederated States is dear to all the wise and the good. They justly consider is dear to all the wise and the good. They justly consider it as holding an important relation to the emancipation of the world from the shackles of despotism. We rejoice that the people do love the Union, and cling to it with the tenacity with which they cling to life itself. We are glad that they tremble and turn pale when they see it in danger—this is to us a ground of hope, a basis of confidence, that the days of its departure are not near. Give the people time to reflect; et them take breath at suitable intervals; and they will be likely to come to right and safe conclusions. Only do not hurry them; do not assault their passions or prejudices; give them time for cool reflection, and they will solve the great

As a part and parcel of the body politic, and as occupying a position to exert a most potent influence upon the mind of the public, is it not clearly the duty of the Church to abstain rom all measures which are likely unduly to agitate the pub-ic mind upon the subject in question, and to unsettle the conlic mind upon the subject in question, and to unsettle the confidence of one section in the integrity and patriotism of another, and so loosen the cords by which these States are united together? In the exercise of the rights and functions of freemen we necessarily act as citizens of the Republic. Our rights, properly considered, cannot conflict with the public west. We cannot isolate ourselves from the body politic and take our measures merely frem our rights as individuals to speak and set as we also see the light affect. to speak and act as we please. In all matters which affect the public welfare we must act as a part of the public, and civil compact to which we look for the protection of our rights—"the security of life, liberty, and the pursuit of hapbiness." If we talk at random because speech is free; in-lulge in unmessured censure of our legislators, because their conduct is a proper subject of review, and stricture, if need be; and nullify laws, because we are not pleased with them even should they be really unjust and oppressive—we shall by this process, so far as our influence goes, bring all law and authority into contempt, and loosen the bands of society. And will a Christian man do this? Can he do it? Is it consistent with the teachings of the Bible? Would it not bring Religion into contempt before the world, and put the Church in the attitude of hostility to the State? If laws should be enacted which we cannot obey without violating a good conscience, all we have to do is to submit to the penalty, or go out of the country. Openly to resist the penalty of the laws, legitimately enacted, is rebellion, and is not only punishable as a breach of the public peace, but is an offence against the law of God. "The powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever, therefore, resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God; and they that resist shall receive to the ordinance of God; and they that resist scali receive to themselves damnation."—Romans xiii. 1, 2. "Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work."—Titus iii. 1.

Here is the "higher law" upon the subject, and it is obligatory upon all men. The principle of resistance and nulli-

oss no limits ; it sweeps away all the barriers of social order. When a man assumes the right to disregard and nulorder. When a man assumes the right to disregard and nullify one law, he has taken a position which may apply to all laws whatsoever, and which all others have as good a right to occupy as he has. If one man has the right to pronounce a law bad, and to trample upon it, so has another; and if one law may be so treated, why not all? Then every man would only obey such laws as pleased him, while he would hold the balance in contempt. Upon this principle there would be no law—every man would do what might be right in his own eyes. There are radicals and fanatics who go these langths but they are not Christians. Their philosophy these lengths, but they are not Christians. Their philosophy is from the lower regions, and is as destructive of christianity as it is of law and order

We next inquire whether the Church is in a condition to We next inquire whether the Church is in a condition to endure, unharmed, continued agitation upon this "vexed question?" We believe there is a strong feeling at the North against this course. The great mass of our people wish to keep the church to her appropriate business, and have a strong repugnance to the idea of having our ministry and our religious press mixed up with political questions, and with the agitations which grow out of party collisions. They feel that agitations of this sort are prejudicial to the influence and efficiency of the church, and greatly weaken her legitimate functions, and they sigh for a better state of things—their prayer is "for the peace of Jerusalem." and would protheir prayer is "for the peace of Jerusalem," and would pro-cure it at almost any sacrifice.

We would fain hope—and we do hope—that our brethren

who have hitherto been concerned in the abolition sgitations, will pause and look at the subject dispassionately, and ask themselves cui bono?—what good is to result from the present course. What is wanted at the present crisis is practical The case of Mr. Handrason was fixed for trial on its merits on the 2d January. The plea previously filed by Col.

Ball was withdrawn, and that of the control of the contro " In endless mazes lost."

THE GOLD-BEARING QUARTZ.

PROM COLTON'S "THREE YEARS IN CALIFORNIA." The Surface Gold in California will in a few ears be measurably exhausted; the occasional scovery of new deposites cannot long postpone such a result; nor will it be delayed for any great number of years, by any more scientific and thorough nethod of securing the treasure. California will prove no exception in these respects to other sections of the globe where surface gold has been found. The great question is, Will her mountains be exhausted with her streams and valleys? Will her rock gold give out with her alluvial deposites? The gold-bearing quartz is the sheet-anchor at which the whole argosy rides; if this parts, your golden craft goes to fragments.

When an old Sonoranian told me in the mines that the uartz sweated out the gold, all the young savans around laughed at the old man's stupidity; and I must say the perpiration part of the business rather staggered my credulity, which has some compass, where there are no laws to guide and the engines were stopped. On examination it was dis one. But the old digger was nearer the truth than many covered that the valve through which the condensed steam of who have more felicitous terms in which to express their theories. Though the gold may not coze from the quartz as wa- that it either broke or refused to act, so that the piston in deter drips from a rock, yet it is there, and often heads from the scending came full down upon a solid column of water, insurface like a tear that has lost its way among the dimples of stead of meeting with a vacuum, and occasioned the jar which a lady's cheek. In other instances it shows itself only in fine had made the huge strong vessel shake from stem to stern. eye, and even cludes the optical instrument; but when re- head being cracked by the blow. The anchor was of course duced to powder with the quartz, flies to the embrace of quick- at once dropped. silver, and takes a virgin shape, massive and rich. The speyielded from one to three dollars the pound. These speci- the inspection of the engineers of the Georgia and Pacific, yield that may be derived from the quartz.

The gold rocks of Georgia and Virginia yield, on an averdarkness. The only real defence for our incredulity lies in foresail. the presumption that the gold-bearing quartz, like the surface deposites has its confined localities. And yet Mr. Wright, our member of Congress from California, who has traversed the slopes of the Sierra, is sanguine in the opinion that the gold-bearing quartz occupies a broad continuous vein through the entire extent of the foot range : and in this known laws, or capricious impulses, in the distribution of able, the hand-pumps were also out of order, and no means

ove of the patriarch on his favorite child. s, that each and every cocoanut on this California tree should, but I cannot say that such was the fact. have a nest of canaries in it. And yet, with all these dog- About 9 A. M., at the suggesstion of Gen. Howard, the

quartz and stampers. then seize your light machinery and pursue his track. But, progress as that mountain bird with his talons driven into the back of a mastodon or whale.

BLOWN UP BY A BURSTING BOILER.

One of the Editors of the New Orleans Crescent was amor he persons who were blown high in the air by the explosion on board the Anglo Norman. We have already published a escription of the explosion, but we copy as somewhat curious the part in which he describes what befell himself as one of those who were blown into the air and fell into the river :

"Mr. Brear and myself took the only two chairs remain ing unoccupied on the deck, and placed them, his with its back to the pilot house, and mine with its back to the chimney. It will be seen at once that we seated ourselves immediately over the monster boiler of the boat.

"We had been but a very few minutes engaged in conversation, when a jet of hot water, accompanied by steam, was forced out of the main steam pipe, just aft the chimney, and fell in a considerable shower near to us. I had not before noticed any thing of the kind, and thought it very strange. I was just about remarking this to Mr. Bigny, when I was suddenly lifted high into the air, I know not to what distance. I have a distinct recollection of passing, rather irregularly, through the air, enveloped, it seemed to me, by an impenetrable cloud. There was a sufficient lapse of time for me to have a distinct impression on my mind that I was inevitably lost. In what position I entered the water and to what depth I went, I have not the slightest idea. When I rose to the sur-A went, I have not the signiest idea. When I rose to the surface, I wiped the water from my face, and endeavored to get a view of things about me, which I was prevented from doing by the vapor of steam, which enveloped every thing as a cloud. This, however, was in a short time dissipated, and I then had a clear conception of my situation. I found myself still in possession of my senses, and my limbs all in good working condition. I looked round, as I thought, in every direction, and could only discover that I was not far from the middle of the river, and in the neighborhood of some twenty or thirty others, who seemed to have been thrown into the river somewhat in a heap. They were sustaining themselves on the surface as best they could, many of them endeavoring to get possession of floating pieces of the wreck to aid them.

"I could see nothing of the exploded boat, and was fully satisfied in my mind that she was blown all to pieces, and severy being on board lost but those who, like myself, were still struggling in the water. I will do myself the simple jus-tice to say, that from the time I arose to the surface I had no apprehension of drowning, notwithstanding the chances that seemed against me. I never felt more buoyant or swam with greater ease. Still, I thought it well enough to appropriate whatever aid was within my reach; so, like others, I began a race, which proved a tedious one, after a piece of shattered plank. I finally reached it, and putting one hand rather race, which proved a tedio udely upon it, got a sousing for my pains—the piece was no small to render me any material service. I abandoned it, and turned in the direction of a steamboat (which I afterwards learned to be the Naniope) which was making towards us. To keep my face towards the approaching steamer I found that I had to oppose the strong current of the river. This, together with the coolness of the water, so exhausted my steament that for a brief space. I felt that I might not be strength that, for a brief space, I felt that I might not be able to keep myself on the surface until the boat sho within reach of me. As the boat came near to us, there was a cry from a large number of my unfortunate neighbors, "Stop the boat!" "Stop the boat!" There was, indeed, great danger of our being run over by it. I, however, had no fears on this point, and made no effort to get out of its way. Fortunately for myself, I was one of the first the boat approached. A sailor threw out to me a large cable, which I succeeded in grasping at the first effort. I was drawn to the boat's guards, which were several feet above the water. While drawing me up, the kind-hearted sailor cried out, "Hold on, partner!" But I could not; my energies were exhausted; the rope was slipping in my hands, and I should certainly have fallen back into the water, and perhaps have been carried irrecoverably out of reach, under the boat's guards, had not another sailor quickly reached down and got hold of one of my arms. I was drawn on board about as near lifeless as folks get to be who are not dead.

THE STEAMSHIP OHIO AND THE STORM.

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 28, 1850. Messrs. Galks & Skaton : The great anxiety manifested to learn the details of the escape of the steamship Ohio from the late storm has induced me to send the enclosed account, intended originally only as a private letter to a relative. If you think fit to publish it it is at your service; if not be pleased to mail it to address; and oblige yours, respectfully, &c.

The name of the writer of the above and the following is with the Editors.

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 28, 1850. My DEAR FATHER: I have to parrate one of the most remarkable escapes from utter destruction on record in the his-

tory of maritime perils. The steamship Onto, on which I came passenger, was in the act of leaving ber anchorage at Havana on the 18th December, and her wheels had just commenced revolving, when s shock was felt as if she had struck a log or run aground, one of the cylinders is ejected had become so much rusted reins; and in others still, is wholly concealed from the naked Our starboard engine was completely disabled, the cylinder-

Next morning, the 19th, our captain, after taking in a full timens of quartz which have been subjected to experiment, have supply of coal and water, and submitting the machinery to nens were gathered at different points, in the foot range of both then lying in port, determined to prosecute our voyage the Sierra Nevada, and are deemed only a fair average of the to New York with a single engine. We got under weigh about 9 A. M., and proceeded for many hours very slowly and cautiously, until, finding that all worked well, our speed age, less than half a cent to the pound, and yet the profits are was increased, and we ran with fair sky and smooth sea until ufficient to justify deep mining. What then must be the the evening of the 22d December, when we found ourselve profits of working a rock which lies near the surface, and about twenty miles south of Cape Hatteras. The wind, which which yields over a dollar to the pound? The result stag- during that day had been in our favor, now freshened rapidly, gers credulity; and we seek a refuge from the weakness of and about 10 o'clock at night we were scudding, steam up, faith in the more reasonable persuasion that the specimens under bare poles, before a strong southeasterly gale, with tested are richer than the average of the veins and quarries a heavy sea rising. Next morning, the 23d December, found which remain. And yet the poorest specimen, which the us lying to, the engine working slowly. About noon the casual blow of the sledge has knocked from the sunlit peak, wind shifted towards the northwest, which broke awhile the has seemingly more gold in its shadow, than the rock un-roughness of the waves; but during the afternoon the gale inhousled from its mine in Virginia beneath forty fathoms of creased, the ship now lying to under mizen-sheet and

and two, owing to the laboring of the vessel, one of the starboard feed-pipes, from five to seven inches in diameter, which, entering the vessel's side a little below the water line, supplied one of the engines, became wrenched from her planking just at the point where secured to it by a flange, leaving pinion the Hon. T. Butler King, in his lucid report, coin- an aperture of several inches, through which the water rushed cides. Still such a wide departure in nature from all her in. About the same time the bilge-pumps became unservicegold, leaps beyond my belief. In no other part of her wide remained of draining the hold except by hoisting up water in omain has she deposited in the quartz rock a proportion of the four large copper buckets, holding about twenty gallons gold more than sufficient barely to compensate the hardy each, which serve to draw up ashes from the furnaces. The niner: and it is difficult to believe that, with all her affec- fires had been washed out; the ship, with her sails partly ription for California, she has been so prodigal of her gifts. It ped from the bolt-ropes, had fallen off into the trough of the surpasses the rainbow-inwoven coat bestowed by the partial sea, and lay rolling helplessly and heavily as a log. Part of the crew, waiters, and passengers were working at the cranks When a simple swain saw a necromancer break a cocoa- of the ash buckets; but, when the morning of the 24th nut shell and let fly half a dozen canary birds, he remarked dawned gloomily and wild, there were four feet water in the there was no doubt the young birds were hatched in the co- engine-room, and still more in the hold, which lay rather count; but what puzzled him was to know how the old bird lower, and our situation was almost desperate. It is said that could get in to lay the eggs. But a deeper puzzle with me some of the crew had obtained access to liquor and lay drunk,

ged doubts and dismal dissuasives, were I going to invest in passengers organized themselves into games or sections of California speculation, my inklings would turn strongly to twenty men, five to the crank of each ash bucket, who who were relieved every half hour. The toil was excessive, But I would send out no machinery which should have a the strongest men reeling off nearly exhausted when their time piece in it weighing over seventy or eighty pounds : no other was up. The leak, which was perfectly accessible, had soon can be taken through the gorges, and over the acclivities to been partially stopped, but could not be entirely so; and there the lofty steeps where the quartz exists. The machinery can be little doubt that the strained and laboring ship must which can be readily taken to the mines in Virginia would have received water from others, undiscovered, probably at her cost a fortune in its transportation to the proper localities in seams, just above the water line. She shipped no seas, ex-California. The heaviest capitalist would find himself copt occasionally on the forecastle, being too high and buoyswamped before he got to work. Every piece must be taken ant. The rush and surge from side to side of the hold was over elevations where a man can hardly draw himself up, terrific. This continued all day, but the perseverance of those and where his life is often suspended on the strength of the who toiled gradually and steadily reduced the rushing waters, fibres which twine the bush to the fissures of the rock. It and relieved the ship in proportion. At night the scene be- tion of the debt, is \$7,212,773.48, leaving the nett debt of the should be so light as to render its removal to any new, and came even more fearful still. As the moon shone dimly ous expense. A machine wielding the force of one man, the men on duty, clinging with one hand to ropes, stanchions, and stamping on the spot, will be more productive than a or whatever stood nearest, and with the other laboring for forty-horse power working at a distance. All the transport their lives. The gale by midnight was fast abating, but so never been called for, and which most probably never will be tation must be done by hand, for no animal can subsist among violent still was the steamer's rolling in the trough of the the steeps were the quartz prevail. Watch the eagle as he waves, that every minute we feared to see the tall chimneys soars to his high cliff with a writhing snake in his beak, and burst from their stays, and be precipitated into the seething ocean. The very engines were in danger of loosening, and chained to a heavy engine, you would make about as much had they parted the huge ship must have been burst asunder, and gone down. Two of the hog-chains broke; and the caps of some of the posts supporting them were crushed o split. The bulkheads and timbers creaked and grouned constantly, as if being wrenched asunder. At times every man on deck was compelled to pause and hold on with both hands, to avoid being launched overboard as the vessel heeled and urched. Such was our Christmas eve!

About 2 A. M. of the 25th the engine-room was so f drained as to admit of the fires being re-lighted, which, from the soft Pittsburg coal being drenched with water, was no easy operation. The baling out still continued. Most of the passengers were up by 7 o'clock, but more dispirited than at any time previously; for, although the machinery seemed capable of working, the well had become so choked up by the washing in of coal that the great cranks could not descend to their full sweep; nor, of course, could the wheels perform a complete revolution. At the instance of some passengers a signal of distress was hoisted, and two guns fired, to call to our assistance a schooner which had been lying to about eight miles to leeward, but now nearly becalmed, the wind and sea having gone down. Meantime, while the vessel lay comparatively still, the firemen below worked nobly to clear the well, and between 9 and 10 A. M., when our little friend the schooner had beat up with a freshening breeze to within four miles of us, they succeeded in digging out the coal, the wheels revolved, and three hurrans told all below that the steamer moved. The breeze from landward increased; we managed to get on sail again, and by three o'clock were out of

We had been driven by the Gulf Stream and the gale about forty miles north and sixty miles east of Cape Hatteras, and Norfolk was of course the nearest harbor. For this port, at the united written request or protest of the passengers, the captain bore, the machinery working slowly and cautiously. We had unshipped the cranks of the ash buckets, and reeved the ropes of each directly through a block or pulley, so as to run up the buckets rapidly by the power of several men. Previously to this only four men could lay hold at a crank, and slavery was wrong and that Congress has the right to prohibit their toil was terrible. Toward night the wind freshened and blew pretty hard, so much so that the sails were reefed; and had it caught us still disabled in the Gulf Stream, would free citizens." The publication of this letter enraged the probably have foundered the vessel. But the passengers, al- Hunkers. Threatening and coaxing were resorted to, and hough much wearied, still worked at the buckets, throwing Mr. Atwood finally yielded, so far as to sign a second letter out immense volumes of water. Reorganized in eight sections of fifteen men to each pump, each working two hours at time, it was found that we could keep the hold sufficiently dry with only two buckets, and in this manner we labored all day and night of the 25th, and until 9 A. M. of the 26th, when our steamer entered the Capes of the Chesapeake, and was pronounced out of danger. A little after we cast anchor

You may form some estimate of the quantity of water baled out of the hold when I mention that from about three o'clock buckets of at least twenty gallons each were emptied at an the flames. The warden's dwelling house, main prison, and average of not less than thirty times per hour ; and afterwards, guard room were entirely destreyed. The workshops and until 9 o'clock of the 26th, at the rate of forty-five times the hour; making say 187,000 gallons, exclusive of the water the flames. The prisoners, about ninety in number, were thrown out by the dinkey engine during the few hours that it all safely lodged in the workshops. The fire is supposed to was tinkered into working order, and of what was ejected by have originated from a stovepipe in the guard room. The the hand-pumps, which, after much delay, were at last got to warden's property, being in front of the building, was mostly work, and kept going for some hours during the 24th De- saved .- Portland Argus, December 24.

noble one, (although, perhaps, not enough so for a wax steamer,) and it is to her great size and strength, and to the resolute exertions of her passengers, from one hundred to two hundred and fifty of whom had the power, will, and courage to labor, that her escape from destruction is owing, and to the alnost visible interposition of God. Of the skulkers and cowards will say nothing; some men, too, were prostrated by seasickness. But to our astonishment we find that she has never been coppered; we know that, during the fifteen months that she has been kept constantly running, she has never been repaired, overhauled, or caulked, although exposed to several gales, alternately to tropical heat and northern cold, and running in seas infested by the timber-worm from the latitude of Norfolk to that of Chagres. Her sails were probably as old as herself, weather-beaten and smoke-charred, and not originally of the strongest canvass. Her machinery during all this time had been exposed to the corrosive action of sait water. Her pumps, when required for use in the hour of danger, were unserviceable. Her condenser, which, had fresh water failed us, might have supplied us with it at the rate of not less than two hundred and fifty gallons per day, simply by condensing steam, was out of order. Her boats, which in case of fire or explosion might in moderate weather save the passengers, were only four in number; and, being fitled with oranges, could not have been lowered in time to save any one who might fall overboard. Finally, on reaching Norfolk, about twenty barrels of bread remained to supply some four hundred and fifty men, and of this but three or four undamaged. Seaworthy she may have been, but she was not in good sea-going order and properly found.

In minor matters she is also bad. I cannot commend the ceatness of her table and its appurtenances, or the civility, acivity, or honesty of her mulatto waiters. I mean the "genlemen of color"-some very few excepted. On the contrary, they were lazy, negligent, and insolent in the extreme; it would be difficult to congregate a more worthless set of scamps. During the gale they took advantage of the general confusion, and it was scarcely possible to procure even biscuit or fresh, water we were compelled to resort to the oranges on board. Many passengers were plundered by them : clothes, money, and jewelry have been stolen. I am myself among the losers.

However, we have all escaped with our lives, which, or the morning of the 24th, were, even in the opinion of the officers of the vessel, and indeed on the 25th, not likely to last half an hour longer. I think I have seen worse gales and milder seas, but never has my life been exposed by sea or land to such imminent risk as it has lately escaped.

Excuse this badly written letter. My hands are still stiff and sore with hard labor, and not yet freed from the dirt of the engine room and ropes. I have confined myself to stating none but ascertained facts, and on reading over this letter to one of our passengers who acted as sailing-master when that officer was disabled, he coincides with and confirms my statements. Adieu!

MEXICO.

By an arrival from Vera Cruz we have received papers from he city of Mexico to the 10th December inclusive. The Congress of the republic was still in session, and was engaged in interminable debates on subjects of no interest whatever to our readers.

Don JESUS MARIA VASQUEZ has been appointed Ministe pro tem. in place of Don Raque Munos.

Mr. LERDODE LEGADO has published an interesting pamphlet on the condition of Mexico, in which many important statistical statements are embraced. We perceive, for instance, that the income of the clergy amounts to \$20,000,000 per annum. The landed property possessed by this body epresents an enormous capital. In the Federal District slone it is over one-half of the entire landed property of the district. The revenues of the General Government itself do not exceed \$6,000,000.

General Maria Cashellanos, who had left Oajaca in pursuit of the rebel Gregorio Melendez, died suddenly at Tehuantepec on the 28th November .- New Orleans Bee.

THE DEBT OF VIRGINIA .- The last Richmond Examiner contains a statement of the debt of Virginia and the various works of internal improvement in which the State has invested money. According to this statement the total debt, lisbilities, and guaranties, amount to \$18,459,951. The total of resources of every description is \$13,112,832 01. The portion of available resources which constitutes a fair offset to a por-State \$11,247,078.30; or, exclusive of her liability as guaranmust be borne in mind that many items which stand to the debit of the State consist of subscriptions to works which have called for-the requisite amount not having been subscribed by persons other than the State. As to the bonds guarantiad by the State, they can hardly be called a liability, for she has taken security sufficient to reimburse her for any loss she may sustain as guarantor .- Petersburgh Intelligencer.

INDIANA CONVENTION .- This body has ordered to be engrossed, by a vote of 86 to 16, a section which provides that every citizen of the United States twenty-one years old, and who has resided in the State six months, and every white male foreigner twenty-one years old who has resided in the United States one year and in the State six months, and has declared his intention to become a citizen, shall be entitled to a vote in the township in which he resides, soldiers excepted. A substitute for this section, which would have excluded for-

eigners not naturalized, was lost by a vote of 14 to 90 Sections requiring the election to be by ballot, and that each ballot be numbered to correspond with a similar number of the voter's name : disqualifying persons from office for the term for which they are elected who shall have offered any bribe, threat, or reward to procure their election; prescribing that no person shall hold more than one lucrative office, except as in the Constitution is expressly permitted; prohibiting Legislative divorces and the establishment of lotteries and the sale of lottery tickets, were ordered to be engrossed by de-

JOHN McCornick, Esq. of Montgomery Alabama, was acidentally drowned on the evening of the 24th ultimo. In company with a friend he had been gunning across the river, and in returning their skiff was upset. Mr. McCormick had been for some years connected with the press in Alabama, and was recently editor of the Montgomery Advertiser. Those who knew him say that he was a gentleman of much worth, alent, and amability of character.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE "DEMOCRACY."-Both sections of the Locofoco party in New Hampshire have been thrown into quite a commotion by the appearance of the letters from JOHN ATWOOD, their candidate for Governor. The first one was a reply to a committee who desired him to define his position in regard to the extension of slavery and the fugitive slave law. He took decided free-soil ground, maintaining that its extension, and that the provisions of the fugitive law were "oppressive and liable to be perverted to the enslavement of repudiating the first, and declaring his determination to stand by the "compromise measure." This, of course, slienates the other wing of the party, and it is not easy to see how the "union" can be preserved .- Rochester Democrat.

BURNING OF MAINE STATE PRISON. -The State Prison at Thomaston (Me.) was discovered to be on fire about four and a half o'clock, Sunday afternoon last. The engines were promptly on the spot; but, owing to excessive cold, (thermometer ranging 12 degrees above zero,) and the scarof the morning of the 24th to 9 A. M. of the 25th, four city of water, could not be brought for some time to work on

An attorney, not proverbial for his probity, was robbed one lives have been shamefully triffed with by the owners of the Ohio, in their anxiety not to lose any part of the enormous profits of her voyages. The vessel, it is true, is a stanch and